

Major Nicholson graduated from The Citadel in May 2008 and reported directly to Officer Candidate School (OCC-198). Upon Graduation, Major Nicholson was commissioned and reported to The Basic School in August 2008. He attended Basic Officer Course (BOC) 7-08 from August 2008 to April 2009 and then attended Infantry Officer's Course 3-09 from April to June 2009.

In July 2009, Major Nicholson reported to 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division and served as 3d Platoon Commander, Company K until June 2011. During his time, Major Nicholson deployed within BLT 3/8 with the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit in the Arabian Sea and also supported Operation Enduring Freedom in Helmand Province, Afghanistan. In June 2011, Major Nicholson was assigned as the Combined Anti-Armor Team Platoon Commander, Weapons Company, 3d Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment until May 2013. During his time, Major Nicholson deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Helmand Province, Afghanistan.

Major Nicholson transferred to The Basic School, Quantico, Virginia in May 2013 and was assigned as a Warfighting Instructor in the Maneuver Section. In October 2013, Major Nicholson was assigned to the Basic Officer Course (BOC), Alpha Company 1-14, as a Staff Platoon Commander (SPC), with following assignments as a SPC for BOC Echo 5-14, and Warrant Officer Basic Course 1-15. In May 2015, Major Nicholson became the Officer in Charge of the Instructor Education Program, The Basic School.

In February 2016, Major Nicholson departed Quantico, Virginia and reported to Fort Benning, Georgia as a student in the Maneuver Captains Career Course. After graduating with honors in August 2016, Major Nicholson reported to 1st Battalion, 2d Marine Regiment, 2d Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, NC. In September 2016 Major Nicholson assumed Command of Company C, 1st Battalion, 2d Marines until February 2018. During this time, he deployed Company C as the Security Force for Task Force Southwest, Helmand Province, Afghanistan. Upon relinquishing command, Major Nicholson served as the Assistant Operations Officer for 1st Battalion, 2d Marines.

In July 2018, Major Nicholson departed Camp Lejeune, North Carolina and reported to Quantico, Virginia as a student in Command and Staff College. Major Nicholson completed Command and Staff College as a Distinguished Graduate and received a Master's in Military studies in June 2019.

Major Nicholson's personal decorations include: (1) Bronze Star, (2) Navy/Marine Corps Commendation medals, (1) Combat Action Ribbon.